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- (e) whether the Government propose to make any grants for the purpose; if so, the amount of such grants;
- (f) whether a healthy site has been selected for the projected hospital;
- (g) in how many years the said hospital will be completed; and
- (h) what amount of money has been promised for the said hospital by the district board of South Kanara, by the municipality of Mangalore and by the taluk boards in the district?

- A.—(a) Subscriptions are being collected for improving and extending the present Women and Children's Hospital, Mangalore.
- (b) Rupees 24,000 according to the latest information received by Government.
 - (c) Rupees 40,000.
 - (d) Yes.
 - (e) The matter is under consideration.
 - (f) The proposal is to extend and improve the existing hospital on its present site. It is understood that the Mangalore Municipal Council has agreed to acquire and reclaim the area to the west of the hospital and make it available for the proposed improvements. The site and buildings to be vacated by the Police Hospital are also to be added to the Women and Children's Hospital.
 - (g) Roughly, it may take one year for the improvements and extensions to be completed.
 - (h) The Government have no information.

Alleged danger to Chingleput people by lepers being allowed to go outside the Leper settlement.

* 290 Q.—RAO SAHIB U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the letter published in the *Madras Mail* of 26th June 1925 under the signatures of four respectable gentlemen of Chingleput pointing out the danger to the town and suburbs of Chingleput by the lepers being thus let loose, defiling tanks, wells, etc.;

(b) what action the Government propose to take in the matter of carrying out the remedial measures suggested therein;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend the leper settlement so as to accommodate all the lepers in the Presidency in that locality; and

(d) if so, whether the Government will kindly place on the table of the House all connected papers with regard to the proposed extension of the Leper settlement at Tirumani?

- A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.
- (b) The matter is receiving attention.
 - (c) & (d) The Government are considering the question of the best method of dealing with leprosy in the light of recent medical researches. There is no immediate likelihood of a large increase in the Tirumani settlement.

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(c) what steps Government propose to take to meet this need of the Secretariat clerks?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A separate tiffin-room has been provided for the Secretariat staff.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"What are the dimensions of the room and how many people are expected to utilize it?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I shall ask for the information."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"When was this provided?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Recently."

Tours.

Tours made by the hon. Members and Ministers from 1st April 1922 to 30th May 1925.

* 296 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased—

(a) to place before the House a statement showing the tours made by the several hon. Members of the Cabinet of His Excellency the Governor (including the hon. the Ministers) for opening colleges and other institutions and bridges and other works from 1st April 1922 to 30th May 1925; and

(b) to state—

(i) the cost of each of those institutions and works,
(ii) the cost of each of the tours to Government, and
(iii) why the notion that presence of the heads of Government departments is required at such opening ceremonies is encouraged by the Government?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government do not think that any useful purpose would be served by calling for the information referred to in the hon. Member's question. The matter is within the discretion of the Member or Minister concerned.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I enquire whether it would be open to the Government to say that an answer to a particular question will not serve any purpose? Is it not left to the hon. Member who puts the question to see whether it would serve any purpose or not?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I suppose the question is addressed to me. When Government say that no useful purpose will be served by calling for that information they do not mean that the hon. Member is not justified in putting that question, but that they are not justified in calling for the information; it may be that the information is somewhat different from or involves a very much larger order upon the Government than that contemplated by the hon. Member. I do not think that any want of respect is shown by the Government to the Council in returning that answer."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"When it is for me to see what purpose it will serve, how can Government anticipate whether it will serve any purpose or not? It may be that I would be serving the House by asking for such information."